



## **Greeting**

Happy sunny Friday! What a tease of spring! I am loving it, although I went for a run after school yesterday and my achilles heal is not happy with me :) Enjoy the sunny weather and the Super Bowl this weekend!

## **Progress Reports**

- Progress reports were handed out in 7th period classes today, so students should be bringing them home to share with you over the weekend.
- This means we are half way through second trimester, but there is still time for students to improve in case there are some grades they need to work on before end of trimester report cards
- I encourage you to review the progress report with your student by asking a few of the following questions:
  - ◇ What are you proud of when you look at your progress report? OR How do you feel about what is reported on your progress report? Why?
  - ◇ What did you do to earn that \_\_\_\_ grade? (This gives you a chance to praise goal setting, work ethic, etc.)
  - ◇ Where do you see opportunity to work on improvement over the course of the rest of the trimester?
  - ◇ What are you specifically going to do to improve in \_\_\_\_\_?
  - ◇ What is your goal for the rest of the trimester?

These are just a few samples of questions I am sure you already talk about when you get progress reports and report cards. I think the main thing is to acknowledge the progress and be able to encourage and praise or remind and reflect, whatever is needed. If you have questions or concerns about anything that is on the report, please reach out to the teacher to discuss.

## **Valentine's Day and Food/gifts**

- With Monday being Valentine's Day, a reminder about balloons, candy, gifts etc. at school and on the bus:
  - \* No Glass on the Bus (safety hazard in an accident or if broken)
  - \* No Balloons on the Bus (visibility for the driver no exceptions)
  - \* No Food or eating of any kind on the Bus especially hard candy (choking hazard)
  - \* No large bulky items (everything must sit in the seat with a person or it is considered a projectile by state patrol, additionally most seats already have two students in them)
  - \* Windows on the School side must stay up while at school (safety hazard of students falling under the bus, due to horse play with students on the bus)
  - \* Masks must be over nose and mouth at all times
  - \* No bags or students in emergency exits or aisle's.
- While we don't have quite the same expectations when at school that transportation does, we DO want to minimize disruption to learning. Please keep these in mind for Monday:
  - \* No balloons or bulky items to carry around from class to class
  - \* Keep food and candy in designated areas
  - \* Follow teacher directions for what they allow in their classroom

## **iReady Winter Scores**

- Most students have now completed the winter iReady diagnostic for math and reading. These scores are used for multiple purposes:
  - \* Growth data from fall gives us a picture of student learning so far this year
  - \* Results drive the "My Path" lessons students are assigned in iReady to continue working on areas they need to improve in
  - \* Proficiency numbers inform forecasting decisions for next year
  - \* Teachers can use individual student data to target classroom support
- Here are some overall results to celebrate for Alki:
  - \* Median growth for 7th grade students in reading is 90 (expected is 50)
  - \* Median growth for 8th grade students in reading is 83 (expected is 50)
  - \* 64% of 7th grade students are already grade level proficient in reading
  - \* Median growth for 6th grade students in math is 64 (expected is 50)
  - \* Median growth for 7th grade students in math is 67 (expected is 50)
  - \* Median growth for 8th grade students in math is also 67 (expected is 50)
- While there is much to celebrate in the performance of our students, there is also still work to do as overall grade level proficiency in math and reading is about 50%. By spring, we would love to see that number closer to 75% or more in both math and reading



## Homework Club

- Here is a flyer advertising a new opportunity to support students with their learning starting February 28th.
- Our new student advocate, Melanie Del Carlo is working with Skyview's Key Club students to provide an opportunity for supervised homework support on Monday afternoons from 3:05-4:05.
- Please see the flyer if you are interested in having your child participate.



## Upcoming Dates

- 2/14 3:05 early release
- 2/21 No school- President's Day
- 2/28 3:05 early release
- 2/28 3:05-4:05- Homework club in the media center
- 3/7 3:05 early release
- 3/7 3:05-4:05- homework club in the media center

Mark Cain

Principal, Alki Middle School

[360-313-3200](tel:360-313-3200)

[mark.cain@vansd.org](mailto:mark.cain@vansd.org)

Working to empower students to create a better world!